



GLAD World Cafe Workshop 'Research and the Curriculum', at CHEAD Annual Conference, University of Brighton, 18th-20th March 2015

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Policy, Pedagogy and Practice

We are entering unknown territory within the current Higher Education landscape. The roles and interactions between our institutions, academics and students are evolving. The demise of the homogenous student body and technological advancements has led to the creation of learning spaces that reach beyond physical and/or time boundaries. While the impact of our pedagogic practices on the student learning experience attract ever more scrutiny, the importance of research built on collaboration, partnership and interdisciplinarity to address the complexity of issues within our global society grows ever more pressing.

Rather than a challenge, this climate of change presents a unique and timely opportunity to reset the role of pedagogic research within the Higher Education Art and Design Community. Although there have been considerable developments between the last RAE and REF there is a notion that this area of research is not as well recognized as it might be in some HEIs. Thinking forward and away from the default social sciences approach, pedagogical research in Art and Design should inform our future curriculum delivery. However this research must be both robust and credible both within and outside the discipline.

Thursday 19th March

11:10 Research and the curriculum, GLAD World Café

Following Professor Vicky Gunn's presentation 'Informing the Curriculum: Pedagogic Research', GLAD will invite you to discuss a number of questions in a World Café format. These questions will invite you to interrogate the future format and purpose of pedagogical research within the Higher Education Art and Design Community. Questions might include:

What is research informed teaching and how do we promote this to our colleagues?

What are the challenges to embedding research informed teaching in your institution?

How do we use currently pedagogic research and enquiry to enrich our teaching practice? Discuss examples of successful practice / snapshots or case studies

What is the relationship between pedagogic research and disciplinary research?

- within your institution
- amongst art and design academic colleagues

How do we support colleagues who do interesting teaching and learning projects to develop and become published researchers? How could this be improved?

How can we use creative approaches to research teaching and learning (ie not defaulting to social science based approaches)

How do we ensure that pedagogic research is valued and promoted in a context where colleagues are sometime persuaded to take a disciplinary based approach to research?

Are different research methodologies appropriate to different disciplines within art and design?

How do we evidence the relevance / impact of pedagogic research on the student experience in art and design?